

Appl. No. 10/072,521
Amdt. Dated August 24, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

REMARKS

In the present application, claims 1-21 are pending. Claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15-18 are rejected. Claims 5-7, 12-14, and 19-21 are allowed. Claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15-18 have been canceled. Claims 12, 19, and 21 have been amended. As a result of this response, claims 5-7, 12-14, and 19-21 are in condition for allowance.

The Amendment

Applicants herein cancel claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15-18. In so doing, Applicants take no position on the pending grounds with regards to which the claims are presently rejected. Applicants reserve the right to continue prosecution of these claims in a divisional application. Claims 12 and 19 are amended herein to provide clarifying language. Claim 21 has been amended to correct an improper dependency. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15-18 as being unpatentable over Koeppen (5,761,667) in view of George (6,026,462). The rejection of these claims is rendered moot as a result of the cancellation of these claims herein.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner stated that claims 5-7, 12-14, and 19-21 are allowable.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.



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29 Aug 05

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

August 24, 2004

Date

Debra Pongetti